



Office of Cannabis Management

KATHY HOCHUL

Governor

TREMAINE WRIGHT

Cannabis Control Board Chair

JESSICA GARCIA

Board Member

HOPE KNIGHT

Board Member

CRYSTAL J. RODRIGUEZ DABNEY

Board Member

JENNIFER GILBERT JENKINS

Board Member

FELICIA A. B. REID

Acting Executive Director

Meeting Minutes

Title:	New York State Cannabis Control Board Meeting
Time & Date:	October 10, 2024 at 1:00 PM
Location:	Empire State Plaza Concourse, Meeting Room 3, Albany, NY 12242, SUNY Morrisville, Bicknell Hall, Room 212, 80 Eaton St., Morrisville, NY 13408 and Virtual via Webcast

Attendance

Board Chair:	Tremaine Wright
Board Members Present:	Crystal Rodriguez-Dabney
Board Members Present (virtually):	Jennifer Gilbert Jenkins
Board Members Present (virtually from a private location due to extraordinary circumstances):	Jessica Garcia, Hope Knight
Board Members Absent:	N/A
Others Present:	John Kagia, Patrick McKeage, Felicia A. B. Reid, Tabatha Robinson, Erica Stupp, Emily Steinbach
Others Present (virtually):	Matthew Wilson

Agenda

- I. Call to Order
- II. Welcome and Opening Remarks
- III. Approval of Meeting Minutes from September 10, 2024 Board Meeting
- IV. Consideration of Adult-Use Applications for Approval
- V. Consideration of Conditional Adult-Use Applications for Denial
- VI. Consideration of Municipal Opinion Responses
- VII. Consideration of Adult-Use Licensee Location or Tier Change Amendment Requests
- VIII. Consideration of Registered Organization Applications for Approval
- IX. Consideration of Registered Organizations Change in Ownership



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- X. Consideration of Approval of a Proposed Location for Certain CAURD Applicant
- XI. Consideration of Board Member Disclosure Resolution
- XII. Office of Cannabis Management Report
- XIII. Public Comment
- XIV. Adjourn

Action Items

Resolution No. 2024-99:	Resolution to Issue Certain Adult-Use Cannabis Licenses.	Passed, Unanimous Vote
Resolution No. 2024-100:	Resolution Denying the Issuance of Certain Conditional Adult-Use Retail Dispensary Licenses.	Passed, Unanimous Vote
Resolution No. 2024-101:	Resolution to Issue Responses to Negative Municipal Opinions of Applicants the Board has Issued Licenses.	Passed, Unanimous Vote
Resolution No. 2024-102:	Resolution to Approve Certain Cannabis License and Permit Amendment Requests for the Purpose of a Change in the Location or Cultivation Tier of a Licensee or Permittee’s Licensed Premises or Study Site.	Passed, Unanimous Vote
Resolution No. 2024-103:	Resolution to Approve Certain Registered Organization Applications for Registration.	Passed, Unanimous Vote
Resolution No. 2024-104:	Resolution to Approve the Conditional Change in Ownership of Certain Registered Organizations.	Passed, Unanimous Vote – Board Member Rodriguez-Dabney abstained from the vote.
Resolution No. 2024-105:	Resolution to Approve the Proposed Location of Certain Conditional Adult-Use Retail Dispensary Applicants.	Passed, Unanimous Vote
Resolution No. 2024-106:	Resolution Permitting Crystal Rodriguez-Dabney, to Hold the Public Office and Serve as a Member of the Cannabis Control Board.	Passed, Unanimous Vote

Notes & Comments

- Chair Wright commented that she would like to acknowledge and thank one of their previous board members, Board Member Adam Perry, who after three years of dedicated service on the Cannabis Control Board (“CCB” or the “Board”), has decided to leave them and has departed. She stated that they want to extend their deepest gratitude for his commitment and contributions to the Board and to wish him all the best in his future endeavors. She stated that in a similar vein, she would also like to welcome their newest Board Member, Crystal Rodriguez-Dabney, Esq. She stated that attorney and longtime public servant, Crystal Rodriguez-Dabney is a Diversity, Equity and Inclusion professional, with experience in local



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government as the First Deputy Mayor and Chief of Staff for the City of Buffalo, higher education and healthcare industries.

- Chair Wright commented that she would like to note and celebrate the end of the outdoor cannabis harvest season. She noted that they are proud to recognize the end of another successful harvest season, highlighting the hard work and dedication of New York’s licensed Cannabis Cultivators. She commented that they are also extremely excited to announce a major milestone, the opening of the 200th retail dispensary, and currently there are over 200 cannabis dispensaries open and operational across New York State (NYS). She stated that this milestone marks a significant step in expanding access for consumers and establishing a strong foundation for a diverse and equitable marketplace. She further stated that as they celebrate this achievement, they remain committed to supporting additional licensees and ensuring that their retail network continues to grow in a sustainable and inclusive manner.
- Upon a motion from Board Member Jennifer Gilbert Jenkins, and a second from Board Member Hope Knight, the Minutes of the September 10, 2024 CCB Meeting were approved unanimously.

- Patrick McKeage, Chief Operating Officer for the Office of Cannabis Management (“OCM” or the “Office”), provided an overview of Resolution No. 2024-99, a Resolution to Issue Certain Adult-Use Cannabis Licenses. Before the Board today, is the ninth cohort of adult-use cannabis licenses which have cleared the multistep review process and are being recommended for approval by the Board. This is the largest cohort that the Office has ever put in front of the Board since they started issuing these adult-use cannabis licenses. These applications are from the application window that opened on October 4, 2023 and closed for all application types on December 18, 2023. The 141 applications include 27 retail dispensaries, 12 microbusinesses, 15 cultivation licenses, 16 distribution licenses and 71 processor licenses. If approved, this will make 1,132 adult-use cannabis licenses issued in 2024.
- The Office continues to issue provisional licenses to retail dispensary applicants that qualify in the November queue. After receiving a provisional license, these licensees can begin to search for a compliant retail location and if successful, will come back before the Board for their final approval of their retail location. As a reminder to November queue applicants, if you have submitted a location in your original application, but that location no longer works and you lost control for whatever reason, you can reach out to the Office and let them know that you lost that location and that will then fast track you on the way for getting a provisional license, which is a much easier way administratively to handle adding a new location versus receiving that license at a location that you do not intend to operate at. This also helps to keep the map and proximity up to date so that folks looking for new locations are not necessarily blocked out by a location that is never ended up going to be used.
- Chair Wright commented that you mentioned for folks that would like to submit information to change locations to contact the office and asked how they should contact the office.
- Patrick McKeage stated the AU Licensing email and including your application number and business name in there, is the best way to do that.



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- Upon a motion from Board Member Jennifer Gilbert Jenkins, and a second from Board Member Hope Knight, Resolution No. 2024-99, a Resolution to Issue Certain Adult-Use Cannabis Licenses, was approved unanimously.
- Patrick McKeage, Chief Operating Officer for OCM, provided an overview of Resolution No. 2024-100, a Resolution Denying the Issuance of Certain Conditional Adult-Use Retail Dispensary Licenses. Per the Cannabis Law, the Board is charged with the authority to issue or refuse to issue any registration, license or permit. The seven applications before the Board for denial are initial Conditional Adult-Use Retail Dispensary (CAURD) applications from the CAURD application window that opened in August 2022 and closed in September 2022, but were delayed in issuance of denials because of CAURD litigation. The applications recommended for denial are CAURD applicants that did not meet the requirements of the CAURD program as outlined in Part 116 of Title 9 of New York Code Rules and Regulations. The most common deficiencies include:
 - Inability to prove justice involvement as defined in 116.4(a)(2)(i)
 - Inability to prove qualifying business as defined in section 116.4(a)(2)(iii)
- Board Member Jennifer Gilbert Jenkins stated that these are the denials that they are still approving and asked what denials the Office went through that are not coming to them today.
- Patrick McKeage stated that these are still in the purview of the Board, but the denials for the adult use-licenses, where the entity or majority owner has already been issued a license was delegated to the Office, and the update there is since that last Board meeting on September 10th, an additional 42 applications have been denied for that reason of already being issued a license, either their entity or the majority owner.
- Upon a motion from Board Member Jennifer Gilbert Jenkins, and a second from Board Member Crystal Rodriguez-Dabney, Resolution No. 2024-100, a Resolution Denying the Issuance of Certain Conditional Adult-Use Retail Dispensary Licenses, was approved unanimously.
- Patrick McKeage, Chief Operating Officer for OCM, provided an overview of Resolution No. 2024-101, a Resolution to Issue Responses to Negative Municipal Opinions of Applicants the Board has Issued Licenses. Section 76(4) of the Cannabis Law provides that when a city, town, or village within NYS, or a community board within New York City (NYC) expresses an opinion either for or against the Board's issuance for a license authorizing retail cannabis sale within their geographic bounds, the Board shall respond in writing with an explanation as to how it considered the Opinion when deciding to either issue or deny the license. At the July Board meeting, the Board delegated to the Office the ability to respond to municipalities that issued a positive or neutral opinion. The Board retained the authority to issue letters for municipalities that provided a negative opinion. The 10 letters attached to this resolution are responses from the Board to respond to the municipalities who have issued a negative opinion.
- Chair Wright stated that there was an amendment to this document shortly before the meeting. She noted that on Attachment A, OCM RETL-2023001981, has been removed and that letter will be sent later.
- Patrick McKeage stated that it has been updated on the website.



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- Upon a motion from Board Member Jennifer Gilbert Jenkins, and a second from Board Member Hope Knight, an amended Resolution No. 2024-101, a Resolution to Issue Responses to Negative Municipal Opinions of Applicants the Board has Issued Licenses, was approved unanimously.

- Patrick McKeage, Chief Operating Officer for OCM, provided an overview of Resolution No. 2024-102, a Resolution to Approve Certain Cannabis License and Permit Amendment Requests for the Purpose of a Change in the Location or Cultivation Tier of a Licensee or Permittee’s Licensed Premises or Study Site. The Cannabis Law and Regulations allow the Board to authorize amendments to cannabis licenses. The Office launched an amendment survey on August 27, 2024, which allowed adult-use cannabis licensees to request certain amendments, including location changes or cultivation tier changes, which in accordance with the regulations, require Board approval. The Office will only process amendment requests via the amendment survey which is located on their website under the “Licensing tab”. The Office has begun the review of these amendment requests and will be reviewing the requests on a rolling basis. Before the Board today, are 20 licensees who are requesting either location changes or tier changes for cultivators. All 20 licensees have provided all necessary information in accordance with the cannabis regulations and are being recommended for approval by the Office.
- Upon a motion from Board Member Jennifer Gilbert Jenkins, and a second from Board Member Crystal Rodriguez-Dabney, Resolution No. 2024-102, a Resolution to Approve Certain Cannabis License and Permit Amendment Requests for the Purpose of a Change in the Location or Cultivation Tier of a Licensee or Permittee’s Licensed Premises or Study Site, was approved unanimously.

- Chair Wright stated that she wanted to read this into the record for everyone so that the last resolved paragraph now reads Resolved, the Board approves the application and all privileges except for the right to retail of every registered organization applicant that has received the Chairperson’s aforementioned preliminary determination to approve said application for such registration as identified in Attachment A. She noted that that is the new language of the last resolved paragraph of that resolution.
- Tabatha Robinson, Director of Economic Development, Policy and Research for OCM, provided an overview of Resolution No. 2024-103, a Resolution to Approve Certain Registered Organization Applications for Registration. Section 35(9) of the Cannabis Law states that the Board shall register additional Registered Organizations (ROs) in the Medical Cannabis Program to provide services to unserved and underserved areas of the state and shall actively promote racial, ethnic, and gender diversity when registering additional ROs. The Board approved the application under Resolution No. 2023-34 and the Office has been diligently reviewing applications since last year. For the three registrations listed in the attached resolution, the Office is recommending approval. The applicants have provided all necessary information in accordance with the cannabis regulations.
- This represents the first time since 2015 that the application has been open. In 2015, the program was housed under the Department of Health. The Office has taken that over and is now expanding the medical program. Applicants must demonstrate their ability and capacity



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to serve the public interest, for example, through cultural, linguistic and medical competence, affordable products for all patients, protecting environmental sustainability objectives, diversity, equity and inclusion goals, and outreach to practitioners and researchers.

- There is low saturation in the medical market. New York has 105,195 registered patients, 4,419 certifying practitioners, and 37 medical dispensaries. There is one medical dispensary for every 2,800 patients. Patients cite low access as a key reason for them opting out of the medical cannabis program. Patients are not getting the access that they need for their medication and RO expansion is going to increase access to medicine for thousands of New Yorkers in regions across the state.
- Board Member Jessica Garcia asked how they are prioritizing the regions where they see this issue of access with patients.
- Tabatha Robinson stated that they have a framework called unserved and underserved areas and this is a framework developed in close collaboration across the data team, the health and safety team and the equity team within the agency. She noted that they have looked at those areas of the state that have the greatest health needs and have looked at several indicators, including asthma rates, low birth rates, disability rates, age population 65 and older. She stated that they have essentially identified 600 census tracts in the states that fall into this category as being unserved and underserved and that this offers a framework for prioritizing where they would like these ROs to go.
- Chair Wright commented that the Board will once again see these ROs prior to them opening retail spaces. She stated that will come back before the Board, and they will be able to have more conversation about where they are located.
- Upon a motion from Board Member Crystal Rodriguez-Dabney, and a second from Board Member Hope Knight, Resolution No. 2024-103, an Amended Resolution to Approve Certain Registered Organization Applications for Registration, was approved unanimously.

- Patrick McKeage, Chief Operating Officer for OCM, provided an overview of Resolution No. 2024-104, a Resolution to Approve the Conditional Change in Ownership of Certain Registered Organizations. Pursuant to 9 NYCRR 113.9(c) of the New York Medical Cannabis Regulations, the Board must approve a change in composition of a RO, including but not limited to a change in ownership, structure, or control. NYCANNA LLC and Etain LLC, two ROs, submitted documentation in support of a change in ownership to the OCM including all True Party of Interest (TPI) and ownership information. Following a review of the documentation submitted in accordance with the Cannabis Law and its existing regulations, the Office's Legal and Licensing Teams recommend advancing the change in ownership proposals for the CCB's consideration and approval.
- Chair Wright stated that her comment is not directly related to a RO change in ownership, however, they have heard a number of other licensees in the adult-use program requesting a similar attention and asked what they can tell those people at this moment and what is in the works for them at this time.
- Patrick McKeage stated that right now on the AU side, they actually recently issued a guidance document which is on the Office's website on the AU Licensing page. He stated that this guidance document outlines certain changes in ownership, additions and subtractions to a licensee's TPIs that is now allowed, and basically their regulations outline



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three different types of changes in ownership, one that requires notification, one that requires office approval, and then one that requires Board approval. He stated that that guidance basically says that anything that is in those first two categories, just a notification or office approval, you are free to go ahead and enter into these changes now, understanding that businesses need to be dynamic, and they are attracting investors, people are leaving the company, those type of things happen. He stated that what is simultaneously happening at the Office side is they are working on an amendment system through their New York State Business Express platform, which once that is ready, they will just be asking the licensees who have entered into these changes to come back and essentially enter that information so it is part of the license record and they have the most up to date information for all of the entities ownership and TPIs and then as part of that they will also be working to allow the changes that require Board approval since that will be part of the system and they are able to be able to do the full checks as part of that.

- Chair Wright stated asked if they are making changes and it does not affect the 51% ownership structure, those are generally without them looking at the guidance at this moment, those are generally permissible and businesses can move forward in that direction, just making sure that they tap in, get the guidance and touch base with the Office.
- Patrick McKeage responded absolutely, and it is very important to just keep your books and records up to date, so if there ever was an inspection or something to ask from the Office, you will be able to provide that information.
- Board Member Jennifer Gilbert Jenkins asked can you give a timeframe for when you expect that online system to be up and running.
- Patrick McKeage stated that they are working with their IT team now and they are looking in the first quarter of the new year to have something in place and they will keep updating the Board as they progress with that.
- Upon a motion from Board Member Hope Knight, and a second from Board Member Jennifer Gilbert Jenkins, Resolution No. 2024-104, a Resolution to Approve the Conditional Change in Ownership of Certain Registered Organizations, was approved unanimously. There was one abstention from Board Member Crystal Rodriguez-Dabney.

- Patrick McKeage, Chief Operating Officer for OCM, provided an overview of Resolution No. 2024-105, a Resolution to Approve the Proposed Location of Certain Conditional Adult-Use Retail Dispensary Applicants. This resolution will approve a retail dispensary location for a CAURD licensee for Public Convenience and Advantage (PCA). The Office is working on a broader process for PCA requests and will be reaching out to licensees who have reached out to the Office requesting PCA prior to the proposed regulations being approved by the Board. The proposed regulations for PCA were approved for public comment at the September 10, 2024 Board meeting and will be in the October 23, 2024 State Register. The Office is encouraging stakeholders and licensees to comment on these proposed regulations to solicit feedback to best shape the final rule.
- Upon a motion from Board Member Crystal Rodriguez-Dabney, and a second from Board Member Jennifer Gilbert Jenkins, Resolution No. 2024-105, a Resolution to Approve the



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Proposed Location of Certain Conditional Adult-Use Retail Dispensary Applicants, was approved unanimously.

- Patrick McKeage, Chief Operating Officer for OCM, provided an overview of Resolution No. 2024-106, a Resolution Permitting Crystal Rodriguez-Dabney to Hold the Public Office and Serve as a Member of the Cannabis Control Board. Pursuant to Article 2, Section 7(7) of the Cannabis Law, Board Members must disclose and seek approval to participate in other public offices or boards. This resolution would permit Board Member Crystal Rodriguez-Dabney to serve on the Western Regional Off-Track Betting Board of Directors.
- Upon a motion from Board Member Jennifer Gilbert Jenkins, and a second from Board Member Hope Knight, Resolution No. 2024-106, a Resolution Permitting Crystal Rodriguez-Dabney to Hold the Public Office and Serve as a Member of the Cannabis Control Board, was approved unanimously.

- Patrick McKeage, Chief Operating Officer for OCM, Emily Steinbach, Special Assistant for OCM, John Kagia, Senior Director of Policy for OCM, Tabatha Robinson, Director of Economic Development, Policy and Research for OCM, Erica Stupp, Research Scientist 3 for OCM, and Matthew Wilson, Director of Community Grants Reinvestment Fund for OCM, provided the following OCM report.
 - OGS Report Implementation Update – 120 Days Recap of OCM Workstreams
 - Licensing Changes
 - Application Disposition: OCM has started issuing denials and voids while working through the November queue.
 - Board Approval Application Process: OCM developed a process on Municipal Opinion and is working toward a process for PCA.
 - Single Point of Contact (SPOC) Review: OCM has streamlined and centralized its operations, enhancing communication and transparency with applicants.
 - Staffing: OCM has brought on 29 additional staff to licensing using a variety of methods (FTE, temporary and contracted), bringing the team to 48 members.
 - Communication Changes
 - Dashboard Implementation: OCM has launched an executive dashboard to better understand and communicate application status and progress.
 - Cannabis Map Implementation: OCM implemented an interactive map (LOCAL) to help businesses navigate the state’s market and make informed decisions. Additionally, OCM is working on a user-friendly public facing retail map.
 - Communication Future Planning: OCM in bringing on a customer service expert to engrain the work into all the agency does and leadership is formally engaging with external stakeholders on an Office Hours tour.



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- Regulatory Bulletin: OCM is working on a formal public catalogue of policy and agency decisions and a workflow to guide future work.
- Agency Transformation
 - Agency Wide Staffing Needs: OCM has reviewed agency staffing to adequately plan needs for all areas. OCM has hit over 200 staff with projections to reach 245 by the end of the year.
 - IT / Systems Road Map: OCM is working with Guidehouse to survey system-based needs and develop recommendations for the agency.
 - License Lifecycle: OCM is in the final stages of mapping entire license lifecycle to better inform process and licensee journey.
 - Future Planning: OCM is in great shape for thinking strategically on longer term operational and key agency functions.
- Market Update
 - New York has sold \$696.2 million in legal cannabis.
 - Weekly sales have increased by \$10 million since May.
 - Quarter 3 sales reached a quarter billion dollars, bringing the 2024 year-to-date total to \$535.4 million.
 - Non-flower products account for slightly over half of sales.
 - There are 476 brands now available in NY retailers.
 - ROs account for 12% of sales, with flower sales leading.
- Seed-To-Sale Update
 - Pursuant to Section 78 of the Cannabis Law, the OCM requires all licensees utilize an electronic system that tracks cannabis as it moves through the supply chain, a complex inventory management system called a seed to sale system.
 - All licensees must report their data to OCM using the BioTrack seed to sale system Application Programming Interface (API). In order to ensure unique identification of inventory, licensees will purchase inventory tags from BioTrack in advance of operations. OCM will cover a total of \$250,000 in tag purchases across licensees, at the launch of the project. The unique identifiers tied to each tag are representative of one piece of inventory that stays with that inventory from the plant stage to final product.
- Medical Cannabis Symposium Update
 - OCM, in collaboration with Roswell Park Comprehensive Cancer Center, hosted its first Medical Cannabis Symposium in Buffalo, New York on September 20th.
 - Leading clinicians and researchers in the field of medical cannabis presented on a wide array of topics related to the role of cannabinoids in clinical practice.
 - Almost 200 individuals registered for in-person or virtual attendance.
 - The symposium provided an opportunity for practitioners interested in certifying patients to complete the 2-hour course requirement to become a



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- certifying practitioner. CE/CME credits were offered to all eligible physicians, nurses, and pharmacists who attended both virtually and in person.
- Regulatory Update
 - Part 128 & 129 – Packaging, Labeling, Marketing and Advertising rules are out for public comment until October 28, 2024.
 - Proposed Regulations of Part 133 – Violations, Hearings and Enforcement are out for public comment until November 11, 2024.
 - PCA will be posted in the State Register on October 23, 2024.
 - Legal Online Cannabis Activities Locator (LOCAL)
 - If you have a location and it does not work, you can pull your pin off the map without jeopardizing your standing with the Office. You will be able to submit a new location for consideration and will be considered duly. You have 12 months to submit a new location.
 - Adult-Use Application Review Update – November Queue
 - The Office is prioritizing the review of the November queue and is reviewing applications in the order of the queue.
 - To date, the Office has started the review of up to number 1,501 in the queue review order.
 - Currently, 1030 dispensary locations are receiving proximity protection.
 - If your application is coming up, be on the lookout for an email from the Office outlining any deficiencies. Ensure all your TPI have submitted their disclosures and have been fingerprinted.
 - Each application is different, and the length of the review time will vary from application to application depending on the complexity of review, factors discovered through background checks and responsiveness of the applicant.
 - Licensing Update
 - There are currently 209 CAURD with final licenses, 231 adult-use retail dispensaries, 362 provisionally approved retail dispensaries, 188 microbusinesses, 191 cultivators, 220 processors and 137 distributors.
 - There are currently 210 dispensaries open for business across NYS.
 - Social and Economic Equity (SEE) Update
 - To date, 53% of the adult-use licenses are SEE owned. The breakdown includes 38% Minority-Owned Business, 43% Women-Owned Business, 7% Service-Disabled Veteran-Owned Business (SDV), 7% Distressed Farmer, and 5% Communities Disproportionately Impacted (CDI).
 - To date, 38% of Adult-Use Cultivators, 44% of Adult-Use Processors, 33% of Adult-Use Distributors, 55% of Microbusinesses, and 82% of Adult-Use Retail Dispensaries, are held by SEE licensees.
 - Incubation: Technical Assistance Provider (TAP) Program
 - The Office has identified an urgent need for SEE applicants to receive technical assistance in completing the highly technical,



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- document-intensive application process. To facilitate this support, the SEE team collaborated with voluntary community-based organizations, municipalities, academic institutions, and key community stakeholders to form a network dedicated to streamlining the license application and curing deficiency process for SEE applicants.
- Highlights of the program include the following: engaged and trained over 60 TAPs to provide application assistance, fulfillment of over 800 requests for TAP support by SEE applicants, and coverage of all 10 NYS Empire State Development regions within the TAP network.
 - Technical Assistance Provider Grants
 - Grants provide funding to community-based organizations, not-for-profits, and educational institutions that support SEE applicants and licensees.
 - Awards were granted up to \$75,000 each.
 - Funds must be used to provide SEE applicants and licensees with the knowledge, tools, and information necessary to successfully understand and navigate the application and licensing process, provide support in regulatory compliance, application curing, supply chain education, and SEE recertifications. Funds can be backdated to October 2023.
 - Implementation Report Update
 - Pursuant to the Marihuana Regulation and Taxation Act (MRTA), OCM and the CCB were charged with assessing the progress of implementation of the MRTA over the three years that have passed since it was signed into law.
 - The MRTA Implementation Report was developed in collaboration between the OCM and multiple State agency partners and provides an overview and key measures of the significant progress made to implement the legislative intent of the MRTA. It was delivered to the Governor and the Legislature on October 1, 2024.
 - As of September 2024, NYS has surpassed the MRTA goal of issuing 50% of adult-use licenses to social and economic equity businesses.
 - Participation in NYS's new cannabis industry has been prioritized for the five distinct SEE groups identified in the MRTA.
 - Expungement of marihuana related convictions is still in process. No person in NY remains incarcerated for solely a marihuana related offense.
 - The new legal NY cannabis market presents economic opportunities to every corner of the state. Each new license, permit, or registration represents a new business and new jobs in our communities.
 - OCM Enforcement continues to conduct inspections, issue violations to illicit operators, and padlock unlicensed stores, as well as work with local



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municipalities across the state to build their own enforcement capabilities as permitted by state law.

- The MRTA shifted NYS's cannabis policy from a law enforcement framework to a holistic regulatory framework that aims to protect public health and safety. Monitoring cannabis-related outcomes and emerging public health issues is critical to protecting and improving public health and safety.
- Protecting the environment and improving the State's resiliency to climate change were two of the key intentions of the MRTA. Regulations and licensee support aim to minimize the NY cannabis industry's adverse environmental impacts.
- Recommendations include continued analysis of the economic and fiscal impacts of the cannabis industry, continued efforts to protect public health and safety, continued progress on achieving social and economic equity goals, continued efforts to address the illicit market, expanding public education and engagement efforts, expanding efforts to increase market efficiency, continued supports to foster environmental sustainability and looking to the future and considering the federal landscape.
- Community Reinvestment Program Grants Update
 - In partnership with the Office of Information Technology Services (ITS) and Agate (contractor), OCM has built a new online grant application and management software called "eGrants" slated to go-live in tandem with the upcoming grant opportunity.
 - OCM's webpage dedicated to the Community Reinvestment Program is now live. For regular updates, visit cannabis.ny.gov/reinvestment.
 - OCM has held 20 "Grant Readiness" engagement sessions attended by over 1,350 people to inform and prepare for this upcoming opportunity.
 - The Request for Application (RFA) is expected to go live next week.
 - Approximately two weeks after the RFA release, a bidder's conference is scheduled to provide technical assistance for interested applicants.
 - This solicitation aims to support 501c3 Organizations serving young people ages 0-24 and addressing one or more of the following three priorities: Mental Health, Housing, or Workforce Development. The total available funding for this grant opportunity is \$5 million. Each individual grant award will total \$100,000.
- Board Member Jennifer Gilbert Jenkins stated that all of this market report is focusing on dispensaries and sales out of dispensaries and she is curious if they are tracking what is happening with their growers and processors in terms of as their dispensaries are seeing all of this boom in sales, their growers and processors are seeing their share of this benefit and particularly are they paying attention to illegal merchandise that is being sold out of these dispensaries that is not benefiting our New York growers and processors.
- John Kagia stated that they are absolutely digging into the producer side of their sales data as they try to better understand how this growth is impacting them.



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- Board Member Jennifer Gilbert Jenkins asked do they have a number of total acres planted and relative this year, relative to last year.
- John Kagia commented that he does not have that number in front of him but could get it.
- Board Member Jennifer Gilbert Jenkins commented that looking at the slide that they have up right now where they have over 200 stores open, they have nine licensed ROs and nine out of 200 is not equal to 12%. She stated that she wanted to make sure that they are keeping their eye on this as they are allowing more ROs into the market and over time, more ROs being able to access the retail side, that that percentage is going to expand quickly, and they need to be very careful about that.
- John Kagia stated that monitoring these trends is really critical to them and understanding what is happening in this program and he totally agrees with that.
- Board Member Crystal Rodriguez-Dabney asked how many adult-use locations will the new ROs have access to and could you confirm that it is eight.
- John Kagia stated they will only be allowed to sell adult-use out of three of those locations and up to eight medical locations and then be able to co-locate to sell both medical and adult-adult-use out of three.
- Board Member Crystal Rodriguez-Dabney asked could you talk about the impact that those numbers will have on the market and equity.
- John Kagia stated that for the expansion of the RO program here, is that these were intended to be social equity ROs and part of their success in the applications was a demonstrated commitment to serving underserved communities, so there was real intention put into ensuring that first and foremost, the priority is going to be around serving and engaging in underserved communities and their participation in the adult-use market was really a secondary consideration there. He stated that the intent was to try and get them in locations which where they know there has been limited, restricted or no access at all to regulated cannabis and hopefully increase access in places, in jurisdictions, that have opted out of the adult-use program where they are not going to have adult-use dispensaries open.
- Chair Wright stated that her question follows up, particularly on the supply side concerns, and when they come back with more information, it would be appreciated if they can get a look in a way to understand what are the percentages of out-of-state processors versus their in-state processors and also what are they producing is for all of their processors because she knows that they only focused on gummies here as edible, but there is a growing edible market so it would really be interesting to hear more about what the diversity of the product lines are in that space.
- John Kagia stated that he has actually started to work on that and realized they would have been here for another two hours going down the rabbit hole because the product diversity has grown really interesting.
- Chair Wright asked approximately how long an applicant, or a licensee can hold a property on the map and with proximity protection before improving the space or actually operationalizing.
- John Kagia stated the regulations stipulate that you have a calendar year from the time you receive a provisional application to the time you need to be operational.
- Chair Wright asked if they are holding a location for 12 months, it has not been improved, they don't operationalize, then will the Office go in to remove that location so that it opens up



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space for others or are they waiting for that applicant to notify them that they are not able to utilize this space.

- John Kagia stated that in the cases where there is clearly been no movement in the applicant's intention to operationalize a location once you hit the time limit, you have to explain to the Office why you have not been able to activate that location, present some justification for why you should be able to continue to receive proximity protection on a location that you have not made any progress toward operationalizing.
- Chair Wright asked where a provider can find this information for the grant application.
- Tabatha Robinson stated that the grant program application has closed, and they are now issuing these awards. She stated that they are working with their Comms team to develop a landing page and once they get the thumbs up from OGS to have a landing page on their website where folks in the community applicants, licensees can go on that page, they can get the listing of these awardees and they can reach out and begin that relationship.

- Acting Executive Director Felicia A. B. Reid commented that she is so excited and proud of this agency to hear all of the report outs, all of the change in practice and process, and that it has been really humbling to be part of this agency and leading this agency with all the talent that there is across the board and the commitment to what it is the agency aims to do. She noted that one of the things that she said when she first started was, they are often positioned as state agencies to say they are going to do something and want to do it, and but then it for whatever various reason, it does not happen. She stated that one of the things that she is very much committed to is putting words into practice, and she thinks they are seeing that across the industry and across the agency. She further stated that she wanted to thank everybody who is here today, who has been participating in this industry, in the market, and of course, thank you always to the staff at OCM, who are just incredible folks, thank you also to their partners in the community and of course, to the Majority Leader for supporting this industry and supporting this agency.
- Members of the public were provided the opportunity to address the CCB during the Public Comment period. Participating individuals must limit their remarks to two minutes and should only be related to specific agenda items. Public Comments are listed in Appendix A.

- The CCB adjourned the meeting.



Appendix A

NYS Cannabis Control Board 10/10/2024 Meeting – Public Comment

	First Name	Last Name	Organization (If Applicable)	Public Comment
1.	Crystal	Peoples-Stokes	Majority Leader, NYS Assembly	<p>It's always an honor to be here and get an opportunity to listen to the board do your work in person. I do, of course, want to give a big shout out to the OCM and Roswell, who organized the clinical forum that happened in Buffalo a few weeks ago that was mentioned by your staff or John. I thought that was so impressive. It is definitely a part of what the legislation desired us to do, and I hope that we have some intent on doing a lot more of that. I do also know that some of the resources of the multiple dollars that John mentioned in his report as well is supposed to go into that kind of research. And so I hope that we will soon be working on putting something together that allows institutions like Roswell and many others across the great State of New York who can begin providing the additional research that's going to be necessary. I do also want to say that these social equity numbers are very compelling. It just shows what can happen when you are intent on doing it. I would question, though, whether or not the women-owned businesses include minorities because you know, we do come in that shade, too, as women. And so I don't want to see something separated being women-owned business, meaning just for white women. I mean I don't think that's what our desire was. Our desire was women-owned businesses. And so I think that we can walk and chew gum at the same time, I hope. So that, you know, minority women could also be considered women. The other thing I want to say is that while I'm happy that there are additional ROs being given licenses, I want us to be a little mindful of the fact that they have the ability to grow inside capacities where a lot of our existing farmers and distressed farmers don't necessarily have that. And so what I don't want to see is some sort of unfair system set up where, you know, actually our farmers are doing really well now. They have to be, according to the numbers that John gave us, the products that are being sold in our stores that are only made by them, I understand only grown by them. Right. So, I think we want to see them continue to have that kind of</p>



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				<p>aggressive place in the market. And I don't want that to be challenged because we want to do scenarios that could maybe grow a better product or faster product inside and have an unfair advantage to our existing farmers. So I'm going to ask you all to please be mindful of that because, as you know, they already suffered a lot. While people struggled politically to stop this from happening because they weren't included it right away, it negatively impacted farmers. And so I don't think we want to do anything that further negatively impacts them. Just my thought. Lastly, I would say I kind of feel confident by the people who are at OCM. I won't call names. You all know who they are. That we are going to watch the market in a way that we won't end up like California and those other places where we oversaturate. And so I've heard a number of new licenses that have been awarded. But I also know just because you get awarded a license to date, it doesn't mean you're going to open a store next year. That just means you have an opportunity. And so I'm just hopeful that in your analysis of things that you really mindful of the market. I'm super grateful for the increase in numbers in upstate because it always seems like we get kind of left out. And so I'm grateful that, you know, we are taking some time to pay attention to that. But I think it's important as we close down illicit markets that we don't oversaturate our own market with legal businesses because that's not going to give particularly CAURD applicants an opportunity to see generational wealth that they would like to see in the past in the future, rather. I will also say this about the Community Reinvestment Grants. Those also are required by statute and many of the services that are going to be targeted are already receiving state funds in some way, shape or other. They may not be being successful because sometimes just because you can write a good grant doesn't mean you can always deliver a good service. But the point is, is that there is a maintenance of effort. So if there are resources already going somewhere, that's supposed to deal with an issue, we cannot change the amount that we're going to give as a state to that organization because now they're going to get access to these community reinvestment dollars. We have to add value to that. And I want to make sure we're real clear on that. You can't do what we did with the lottery in the school system, just supplanting the</p>



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				resources. We've got to add value. And lastly, I will say that I think this whole idea that Tabatha talked about, the technical assistance provider grant, is a great idea. And I don't know that many people in my community know that that's available. So I want to add my voice to the Chairperson. How do people get that information on how they can become the ones that provide technical assistance to people who have a desire to be in this industry? So again, I want to thank you all. I know that sometimes we're in a policy business as a government with agencies, but we're also in a political business. And sometimes politics would dictate how we work, how we move and how we make things happen. We don't want to let too much of that happen around this industry because if it does, then it's going to totally negate the impact of what's supposed to happen. We're supposed to provide a new opportunity for new people to have an opportunity for generational wealth. If we let politics take over, that won't happen. This is still America. And so let us try to be mindful that we have to try to make sure that politics can't take over here. We all get elected every four years, every two years. Whatever it is, we can sustain ourselves if we will adhere to the policies of MRTA. I know some people feel uncomfortable about it sometimes, but you know what, everybody deserves an opportunity and sometimes you have to put it in statute in order to make it happen.
2.	Michelle	Kopec	Treehouse	Good afternoon, Board Members. My name is Michelle Kopec and I am an employee of Treehouse, Upstate New York, also known as Cannabis City. Today is a special day for our business. It marks one year since we proudly submitted our application for an adult use retail dispensary license with the OCM. However, instead of celebrating our thriving retail cannabis dispensary in Schenectady as beautiful Mohawk Harbor, we are here trying to find answers as to why we have not been issued a license. We are more than ready. We have jumped through all the hoops. Checked all the boxes. Received all the required permissions. We have the employees, the insurance, the banking, the lawyers, the lobbyists, and much more than the required store security. We have the endorsement of Schenectady leaders in both the city and county. We have a beautiful new store that is already operating a CBD retail shop, albeit at a significant deficit



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				<p>because our customers want THC. And even with all the setbacks, we have been voted the best cannabis dispensary in the Capital District by readers of the Daily Gazette despite the fact that we're not even selling THC products. What we don't have is a license to operate, nor even an indication as to when that license may be issued. We are spending tens of thousands of dollars each month just waiting. Our distributors are tired of hearing maybe next month. Our coming soon sign has become a punchline. And through it all, our would-be competitors are enjoying our share fair share of the market. New York has been has become the butt of every other state' s joke. We understand the OCM has had a rough start and there's been plenty of turnover and that some of the communication issues have been addressed today and we appreciate that. But that is not an excuse for the lack of communication that the OCM has to its applicants. An automated phone and email message to just keep waiting is becoming a self-fulfilling prophecy. The only indication we have that anyone has ever seen our application is a yellow box surrounding your name online, which says in process. I ask all of you this, please turn our box green. Thank you for hearing us.</p>
3.	Bill	Hughes	Blaze LLC	<p>Hello. Bill Hughes. I'm from Blaze, LLC. Application OCMRETL 001096. I want to speak to you about the PCA, Public Convenience and Advantage. It had a lot of information that we mention about public convenience and advantage and I think is positive. But I want to say New York State has 62 counties, 52 plus are considered upstate. Why is that important? Because when you're in the boroughs, you have to submit a letter to one of your town board or community boards to actually place a business at that location. Well, upstate, we operate on a zoning process here. And most towns that are small outside of your larger cities have what they call a main street. And on those main streets, they have a little bit of Arby's off of there. Well, what's occurring now is you are having businesses looking for locations outside of those main streets. And some of the towns are now starting to put in place moratoriums. And I'm not sure the OCM knows about this, but there is at least 2000 I know that are putting moratoriums in place who actually opt in and have issued licenses or permission to operate within that</p>



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				community. So I would say when we're looking at 119.4, that hopefully OCM will go back in and maybe reevaluate that and possibly looking at the radius instead of having it like right now, you currently have where you have a school or a church, you have to be on the same street. I think that should apply for businesses as well and just get rid of that word radius. And I think you will provide a lot more opportunity for people and you will probably ease some of the zoning regulations that are putting pressure on these towns, trying to allow businesses in instead of trying to put moratoriums in place so they can understand what the laws really are.
4.	Milana	Dostova		Good afternoon. My name is Milan Dosotova. My question is pursuant to recently received email. I apologize. Public speaking is. Hello. I recently received email deeming my application void. I kindly request to process an administrative review of my application in accordance to section 120.28 of Title 9, New York City. New York Codes, Rules and Regulations. Applicant shall receive a deficiency notice from the office and shall have 30 calendar days to cure such deficiency. I did not receive any notice or deficiency from the office by email, by mail or any other form of communication. I only learned the additional information required for my application by proactively logging into monthly and through the Business Express portal to check on my application. Additional information required. I added also of the OCMNY.gov to my saved contacts. However, I did not receive any correspondence and then my application was deemed void. I'm kindly asking for my application to be re-reviewed by the OCM. My application number is 2023 00936. Thank you.
5.	Tony	Singh		Good afternoon, everyone. My name is Tony Singh and I have applied for adult use retail dispensary license back into 2020 3rd September, October 18th before the deadline of the first queue and I have submitted the deed about the we had the store going to be to my attorney, and I do have also approval by the town of Johnstown. Out of five applicants, they give only up this location for the approval, but for somehow my application was pushed down to December queue instead of November. So my application number is 2023-000554. And my request is to please look into if there's anything we are missing



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				because we are more than ready and ready for the license so we can do business. Thank you.
6.	David	Lamberg	ProXtracts Processing Incorporated	<p>Hello, I'm David Lamberg. I represent ProXtracts Processing Incorporated. Our license number is 2023 0001575. We are a type one processor. We specialize in hydrocarbon extracts. We would like to have a little bit more information on how to move forward with this process. I've been in this industry for about ten years. I'm not sure if there's many people in this room that even know how to do the processes that I do. I've been featured in magazines in Oregon and safety magazines I have where I graduated with a welding degree and Boces on Long Island. I was basically a safety manager there for the facility for the students. At the time, I would help set up volatile lp gases during that. So I think the qualifications for me understanding to work with the OCM, we just have had little contact. We are now in process, which is amazing news, because we've been waiting almost a full year paying rent on a location in the Bronx. We would be the first processing facility for hydrocarbon extracts in the Bronx, New York. I'm just would like to know a little bit more process information. A lot of my peers, we're 85 in the queue, 78, 81, 83. They have all received their licenses. We have not. We've been in communication since the 3rd of October. And then on the 3rd of October, I was told that I had to check a box to indicate that I was not doing that process until I received my license. And then after that, everything is done. We can continue that process. So I would just like to know when that's happening. Thank you.</p>
7.	Saladin	Amir		<p>Hello, everyone. I just want to say thank you and good afternoon to the board and your committed effort to make this an equitable industry. Like you said, my name is Saladin Amir. I am a CDI minority applicant. I'm on a December queue, which is one of my first concerns out of three. The December queue, it looks like, you know, it's not going to get reviewed or may get reviewed next year. Hopefully we can stay committed to that. I was a part of the mentorship program. I successfully completed that and I was wondering if you guys were still committed to making sure that I get a review before the saturation point. The next thing that I'm concerned about is the chief equity officer posting. It reads like a HR job for internal use only,</p>



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				internal work, outward facing. I don't know really what that means. Are they still going to be active in trying to make sure that the social equity economic part of it on the outside is still happening? The last thing is the social equity numbers. For four meetings, I saw that the CDI numbers stayed low like 5%. And when I ask certain people questions, I'm not going to bring up, they said that that number translates across the board. So you can be a woman and you could be a minority, you can be a farmer, and then you will hit all those slots. So 5%, that means that out of all those other individuals in the SEE applicant, 5% are CDI across the board. So that concerns me because I am CDI. I would like to participate, and I think that I could do a good job by helping New York win. Thank you.
8.	Ian	Burke	Chronic Cannabis Company	Hello, everybody. And I want to first and foremost, thank the board for giving me the time and the opportunity to speak today. My name is Ian Burke. I'm here on behalf of Chronic Cannabis Company and the chronic dispensary opening here in Albany officially today, very soon. So, I just want to thank the board and the Office of Cannabis Management for giving us this opportunity. We cannot wait to get to work. I also want to thank everybody else who support us along this journey to this major milestone. We could not have gotten here without you. So thank you again to the office. And we're looking forward to getting started. Thank you.
9.	Charles	Robinson	Hold Up Roll Up	Yes, my name is Charles Robinson, owner of Hold Up Roll Up.com. First up, before I even get started, I'd like to say to all the people who got applications in to get a license, it took me a three-year process. I was here in the beginning. I felt like it took, I lost my hair in this process. But here's the best part. As soon as I cut the ribbon, it was like the three years that it took me to get here never happened. It was just such a beautiful moment in my life when a ribbon cut that it would finally happen because I literally went broke, I literally went broke doing this. But the opportunity, once the doors open was just like it was just amazing. After four months, I go in there, I still have to pinch myself to say, is this really real? You know, it was really real. So I just encourage people this whole process will teach you patience. Just patience. This whole process will teach you patience. But soon as you open



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				<p>your door, it's going to be like it never happened. I just want to say that and I really want the OCM to be mindful of everything that Crystal Peoples-Stokes said today, because the states before us are feeling an impact now with saturation. You have to be mindful of saturation and then the people that you allowing to come in with the ROs, they got different tax brackets than us. And the consumer understands that. And they will literally punish us, the retailer, and go to an RO because they don't have to pay certain taxes that we have to charge them for and then they will, everything is internet now and they will give us bad reviews. So you have to be mindful of where you place these ROs at around retailers because it could be detrimental to that retailer. And lastly, the waste we have to be mindful of the generation after us. The waste from the products that we're selling, the plastic is going to our landfills and is going to hurt the earth. We have to be mindful of packaging right now. We have to be extremely mindful of packaging right now. We have to come up with a method of redemption, similar to the bottle. Thank you. And just be patient people.</p>
10.	Jeffrey	Hoffman		<p>My name is Jeffrey Hoffman. I'm an attorney from New York City. I'm also here today representing the Cannabis Justice and Equity Initiative and the New York Cannabis Retailers Association. They like me to say that. I want to thank the board on behalf of my clients that you gave licenses today. We had a pretty good haul today and really appreciate that a bunch that we're really waiting for for a long time. So I really thank the board on behalf of my clients that couldn't make it here today. We have a new board member. Welcome. Welcome to the party. So, the water's fine. Come on in. As we like to say. There's been some really good movement and things that have happened at OCM. Two things that I want to highlight are the local map. I got to see that with some folks here and kind of review it and talk about it. Unbelievable job. This is the kind of resource that we need here in the state and we absolutely need to see more things like that. Everybody who's involved with that local map should get a raise. Additionally, the single point of contact is incredibly important. I come from a long line of working in industry and every industry has an account management process, single point of contact. That's incredibly</p>



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				important. There are two issues that I do want to raise for the board. One is I do think we had a rash of voided applications. I have a number of applications that I've reviewed that I don't think should have been voided. So we absolutely need to look into that very, very carefully. Additionally, something that the Chair brought up this idea of there are definitely spots on the proximity protection map that are not going to be valid. I know of ones where the landlords have literally said, I don't have a lease with these people. I have a client that has that type of situation right now. We've written that to you. We really need to look into what's going on with that. Real quick, two things. There are two medical cannabis bills that I'm very active with that we need to get passed in the next session. One of them is sponsored by the Majority Leader. That would require the medical health insurance entities in the state to cover medical cannabis. I've got several folks in the Senate that are interested in sponsoring that would welcome the opportunity to talk about getting your bill turned into law. And then there's another bill that would require medical professionals in the state to take CMEs about the endocannabinoid system. This is something they are not taught about in medical school, and we've got to get this education to them. Thank you very much.
11.	Matthew	Robinson	Legacy Dispensary	Hello, everyone. My name is Matthew Robinson. I'm the owner of Legacy Dispensary. First, I like to thank the Board for having us here today. The Majority Leader, thank you so much for everything that you've done and continue to do. I want to touch on what Mr. Robinson said and what the majority leader said. As far as the ROs. I think a good way to help would be to allow dispensaries, AU dispensaries, to remove the tax when they have a medical card. The tax is going to the state. So, whether it's a medical dispensary or adult-use dispensary, that tax is going to be removed regardless. I mean, it's state tax. So, just because I don't, you know, grow it medically and bring it in medically and do all those things my customers shouldn't suffer because of that. People that come into my store shouldn't complain to me and say, I don't want to shop here because I got to pay a 9% state tax and a 4% municipality tax. That's very important when you're granting these ROs who can be miles or feet from other dispensaries that that makes a big difference. You know,



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				when a person is going to spend \$100 a week, you're talking about at the end of the year, they save \$4,000 by not going to an adult use space. That hurts us. So keep that in mind. I also want to get into speaking about watching the money. We all want to see where the money is going from the taxes. Nobody's talking about it. But everybody's thinking it. We want to see where the money is going. So try to make that transparent. You got a bunch of numbers up here. Make that transparent as well. You know what I mean, if it's going to a park or to a school or to funding, we need to know that as a community. So thank you very much for having me here. Appreciate everybody. Thank you.
12.	Aja	Peek	SPS Enterprises LLC	Good afternoon. My sister Khadijah Peek had to leave for an appointment, but I am Aja Peek, one of the co-owners of SPS Enterprises LLC. We'd like to thank and say thank you to the Cannabis Control Board and OCM staff for all their hard work. We have no frustrations or complaints today. Also, I am average height. But you know, if we can bring our complaints to you, then we can certainly bring our appreciation as well. We are so grateful that we finally received our approval today and after all of the obstacles that we've had, we appreciate the office being so responsive and addressing our issues and we're excited to move on to the next steps of getting compliant. So thank you again to the board and the staff for helping us to get to this point. We are so looking forward to the journey ahead. And lastly, we'd like to thank you for coming to our beautiful little city, Albany. We'd love to welcome the board to return as frequently as possible to the Capital District. Thank you.
13.	Kamel	Jamal	463 station, inc	Hello. How are you doing? I want to talk about the convenience package that I've been talking about for so long, and I think it's important that it goes through in allowing the municipality to get involved in it, because in my case, the city knows our streets better than the OCM does, respectfully speaking, and they know where these shops should be and where they shouldn't be. And if they don't have control of how many licenses apply or go in saturation and no control of it through the city can affect the shops that are opening. So I think it's important what you guys have voted on in allowing the city to get involved in this process. That will help control saturation in a



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				different way other than what we're looking at and having too many stores. So that's what I wanted to talk about. And I too have lost my head, not just my hair on my head. And I'm hoping as it grows back, it doesn't grow back on my back, but on my head. Thank you guys very much.
14.	Eneaqua	Lewis		<p>Hello, everyone. My name is Eneaqua Lewis with Bud Elite, LLC. Thank you, OCM for having us.</p> <p>Congratulations to everybody that went from applicant to licensee and all the licensees that's doing their thing. I have a question about mapping the whole map thing. I know it's a good thing for us to see and everything. My whole thing is like, how are they vetted? I've been to a few meetings. It was like you have to have a mortgage, a lease, a deed, something to actually prove that you hold the location. But we're finding that a lot of people that's on that map, especially that's pending right now, that's holding locations. They don't have those things. And I know this because I'm going around actually talking to people that own the building, landlords, and some of them don't have licenses, but they're holding locations that we need. So how do we get those out of there? How do we get them removed so that more people can take those places? I was called, I'm thankful I'm from the December queue and my number is 2023 002302, number 154. I was called in and told to start the process, but then I find out that there's a pending location on the map where I'm supposed to be. So I'm just confused as why did I get called? Why was I told to start the process if there's already someone there in place? And how do I mitigate that situation? Also, it's just it just seems like it's just really hard to get a response back from the OCM, maybe having account managers assigned to licenses where we can speak with someone directly. I know that a lot of people have said that, but I mean, they're already working on multiple cases. Why can't we contact them directly? It just helps people become less anxious, you know, be a little bit more calm and just have a little bit more direction. Lastly, I would just like to say that where I think that OCM has been doing an amazing job with a little bit of resources that you have. My only question is where do companies that support the cannabis industry come in and how do we get a voice? I created a security company called Petrology that supports dispensaries and any other cannabis</p>



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				company. How do I get my company known? How do I get like maybe on an OCM list or on your website to tell people that I do have a security company that supports the cannabis industry? Thank you.
15.	Nubia	A		Hi, everyone. My name is Nubia and I do want to start by saying I want to thank OCM and everyone I know I keep emailing you guys and I know you guys are working hard and I appreciate that. And I just want to say that I have a location that is being held up due to proximity and that there there's also a church within 100feet of that proximity protected location and the church owns and utilizes the entire building. I truly appreciate the hard work everyone is putting in, but is there a way to also vet the leases before they're added to the map so that no one's holding up the space? So they have to show proof that they have the space because a year is a long time to hold a location. And I'm sure everyone here is in support of bringing legal cannabis to the communities. And I have a valid lease on a main street far from churches or schools, and I'm ready to serve the community. Thank you.
16.	Gino	Murillo	Local79	Looking forward to this event
17.	Alan	Brochstein	New Cannabis Ventures	I am aware of some organizations that run more than a single store and understand that an entity can control up to three licenses. Where is the New York Cannabis Board on encouraging operators to get additional licensing?
18.	Omar	Rabadi	Strains for Life	Would love to know what's the hold up for the locations team? I was told 2 weeks for an update and I'm on week number 6. Every time I get close to finish I'm knocked down and restarted from the very beginning. 15+ months of this is not fair and not what I signed up for. I'm depleted in funds and energy and my bills are stacking higher than P. Diddy.
19.	Sami	Abdelazim	Hemp Geek LLC	As a NY state hemp retail license holder for 5th straight year I want to know if there are any plans to change the restrictive hemp regulations that have destroyed the NY state hemp retail industry? I want to know if you would consider bringing back a 1:1 ratio or even a 1:4 with 30 count per package so we can bring that popular high quality hemp Products our loyal customers and NY citizens desire and now have to order online and send their tax money to other states for brands like Snoozy, Xite, Space Gods, and more all super high quality brands that have evolved to high quality and low prices I want to know if you can change the hemp regulations so we could sell them again?



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20.	Concerned	Citizen		<p>To the Cannabis Control Board,</p> <p>I am writing to express my concerns regarding the current structure of the Community Reinvestment Fund, specifically the 75% reimbursement requirement. While I understand the need for accountability, this approach inadvertently excludes the grassroots organizations that are truly making a difference in our communities, particularly those impacted most by the War on Drugs. The boots-on-the-ground organizations, the ones who pour every dollar back into their communities, are being left out. These groups often don't have the financial cushion to wait for reimbursement. They are on the front lines, changing lives, supporting our youth, and addressing the needs of those disproportionately harmed by past policies. Requiring them to front 75% of the funding puts them at a disadvantage, while larger organizations, which may not have the same community focus, are more likely to have the resources to bridge that gap.</p> <p>It is disappointing to see the first year of this program roll out in a way that favors those who have the means to wait for reimbursement, rather than those who have the greatest impact. I strongly urge you to reconsider these requirements to ensure that funding reaches the organizations who truly embody the spirit of community reinvestment—those who see people as neighbors, not numbers.</p>
21.	Joel	Rafofsky		<p>I go to Massachusetts to buy THC vape cartridges. I drive 8 hours roundtrip, the gas costs me \$50, YET it is cheaper for me than buying in a dispensary near me. Carts in Mass are \$30, yet here in NYS they run \$60-90! WHY???????</p>
22.	Wink	Rich		<p>Applicants who have applied in the November queue are still waiting for licenses. Many applicants, including myself, have secured retail spaces initially but those spaces are no longer available. Many municipalities have a cannabis corridor and have allocated a specific number of cannabis dispensaries for operations. With the vast amount of applications still being processed, how can OCM 1) ensure that applicants will have a fair chance in securing a location, especially minorities?</p> <p>It appears there'll be more licensees than retail spaces available. 2) Are there plans in place to offset the shortage of spaces available?</p>
23.	Michelle	Pozantides	M&H Hazy Dream LLC	<p>Deeply concerned that after 6 months the only correspondence I've received is an email telling me my app is void for failing to upload fingerprints, labor peace agreement, etc after I had provided all of it in April. No</p>



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				liaison, no good phone number and returned emails. Help\$!!
24.	Tom	Cola	None	Here in Corning NY we have to drive an hour or further to visit a dispensary. You should speed up the licensing or leave the little illegal shops alone. If this rollout went any slower it would be moving in reverse.
25.	Yael	Polanco	CG Farms	<p>I submitted my cannabis license application back in December 2023, and we are now nearing a year with no clear update on its status. Despite my previous inquiries, the ambiguity surrounding the review process has created a frustrating experience.</p> <p>As I understand, a third-party evaluator handles application processing. I'm curious if there has been a formal RFP issued for this work, and whether any accountability measures—such as quotas, timelines, or service credits—are in place to ensure timely evaluations. Are there no milestones to track progress on applications, particularly for those of us who have paid to be considered?</p> <p>I have invested significantly to keep my premises available while awaiting a decision, yet I have no visibility into where my application stands. Given the time that has passed, I'm concerned that my application hasn't even been reviewed. I would greatly appreciate clarity on the evaluation timeline and any next steps.</p> <p>Thank you for your time and attention to this matter.</p>
26.	Armondo	Benjamin	Beware Son	Thank you
27.	Sierra	Murray		How do we get updates on our applications? I have sent emails with no replies.
28.	Ronnie	Smith		How do I keep up to date on progress of application
29.	Donna	Jarmak	N/A	<p>Dear Cannabis Control Board,</p> <p>There are not enough (hardly any) regulations for the Cultivation end of the Cannabis law. Why do dispensaries have so many requirements, such as not being able to be near schools, churches etc but there can be an outdoor 4 acre farm in a residential neighborhood and on the edge of Moreau State Park and newly constructed horse trails? The stench has been insufferable. The licensees did not inform the town, they just did whatever they wanted. Please put in the same controls/ requirements that are required of dispensaries. The licensing forms have to include the location of the farm to be and or added on so that municipalities can be made aware. I am not against Cannabis Farmers or legal dispensaries, I am against people that break the law. As you mention in your paperwork I've come across, it is a privilege to be in the Cannabis Industry not a right."</p>



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30.	Roland	Jay	Greenleaf Cannabis LLC	<p>Greenleaf is a woman and minority owned Micro License with our approved cultivation processing and distribution at our leased facility in Midtown Manhattan. We transitioned into a microlicense from an AUCC thru our application in November 2023. At the time of our conversion to a Micro business and in light of being the first and only micro license approved by our Community Board, we believed in the inevitability of our conversion to a micro. It was further understood by the OCM professionals and us that a Micro in Manhattan's Time square vicinity would not succeed without retail due to high rental costs. Our request for conversion to a micro hence included cultivation, processing, distribution and "retail". Our Micro was thankfully approved, however, without retail, effectively causing personnel and operational crisis within our organization.</p> <p>As the first woman and minority owned operating cultivator in the state of New York, and in light of the strong support by our Community Board, we were positioned to be the first operating Micro in Time Square. Now almost one year into our lease at our Time square Location, we have not yet been able to start our Micro business operation. Without our retail license at our cultivation location, we will have no choice but to exit the NYC market and possibly become the first micro license to cease operation in the City of New York, despite our award winning product, and our secured Time Square location. This is a sad situation for us and our community and surely for OCM as it defies all logic that a Micro cultivator is not able to sell its products at its farm location. We are effectively being forced to lease another location which is not financially feasible and is practically impossible. Relocating a cultivation or retail facility in Manhattan is beyond the reach of small businesses (Micro organizations). There are no micro suitable Real estate in Time Square area affordable to us except for our current approved leased micro license location.</p> <p>Micros are small cultivators and micro business retail stores are by no means competitors to licensed adult use retail stores. Micro retail stores can sell products limited by number and brands hence operating more as farmer's stand than a retail cannabis super market. In line with OCM's objective of support for women and Minority owned micro businesses and the community's desire for artisan small batch local cannabis production delivered from farm to home, Micros like ours should not be hindered in operating in urban communities. Farmers in large Urban</p>



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				<p>communities should be able to have retail at their farms subject to the 500' school or 200' of places of worship proximity restrictions. The 1,000' proximity rule to other retailers at least in Manhattan, where obtaining industrial facility with a retail space to accommodate cultivation, processing and retail is almost impossible should not be applicable to Micros. In particular for currently approved micros as the micro product is a farm to home artisan product and a micro retail is not a direct competitor to other cannabis retail stores.</p> <p>As an AUCC converting to a Micro we believed in OCM's objective of providing support for the small businesses (Microbusiness) as well as providing the urban consumers with artisan products locally produced within the community. We have had full control of a rare 12,000 sq.ft facility in Time square at high monthly costs for one year and will likely be one of a only handful of Micro organizations in Manhattan as cultivation in Manhattan is cost prohibitive. It is our position, our customers' desire and our communities supporting position that the local market should have access to truly locally produced, limited artisan products by people who live and work in their community. This is what Micros were supposed to be about yet it seems in Manhattan there is very little room for small artisan cultivators. We need OCM's support to overcome this hurdle. Thank You.</p>
31.	Ken	Tsai		No for cannabis at Green Point Saving Bank.
32.	Dan	Maniaci		I object to the addition of a cannabis dispensary at 807 Manhattan Ave. A historic building should not be used for that use, plus it's connected to a residential building with families and near a school and pre-school
33.	Dax	Williams	U.cf power brokerage	I have followed instructions even hired a lawyer to make sure too apply for my license for dispensary I have location I have had for year and half that been sitting waiting for my license I have people I promised jobs too waiting for me to get license my area has been approved for location but yet me minority who this aw was supposed to help change the disadvantage of opportunity can't get my license in Bronx because of internal problems in state I have references from corporate and community leaders backing me for approval I have a my fees ready too pay but have been waiting so long my money is being drained I need my license immediately please help dax Williams Bronx New York parkchester please
34.	Bryn	Donovan	Northern Area Health	The North Country has many unlicensed dispensaries that continuously reopen after being fined for selling cannabis. We are also seeing high rates of substance use among



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			Education Center	teens who are getting products from these unlicensed dispensaries. What are the next steps for shutting down unlicensed dispensaries and limiting access to cannabis products for minors?
35.	Mark	Stuver	Resident at 1080 Lorimer ST/807 Manhattan Ave	<p>Hello,</p> <p>We residents at 1080 Lorimer were notified last just last week by a small, taped up paper bill that Altitude NY LLC, DBA Altitude NY is planning to open a Cannabis Storefront at 807 Manhattan Avenue, Brooklyn, NY 11222. 807 Manhattan is a mixed use building with a residential component of 29 units - a landmark historic restoration - and the commercial component of the historic Greenpoint Savings Bank - the landmark itself. Residents at 1080 Lorimer occupy the same building on the same lot number, pay taxes under 807 Manhattan for the same parcel of property, and have easements, required egress and shared roof space for all HVAC and filtering needs at 807 Manhattan.</p> <p>Altitude currently runs an unlicensed Club at 1302 Myrtle Avenue, Brooklyn 11221. Among their offerings are memberships, delivery, and discounts, all illegal under the MRTA even if the establishment were properly licensed. That this Club, a known bad actor, is now seeking to open a storefront in what would make it the largest Cannabis business in the state (at ~12,000sq.ft.) at 807 Manhattan Ave raises many concerns. It seems unlikely that simple sale is how they plan to meet the considerable rent of this space; Altitude proclaims their 'Brooklyn dispensary also features a cannabis lounge area known as Xhale, fostering a culture of cannabis enjoyment within a safe and welcoming environment.'</p> <p>Although they promise safety to their members, Cannabis businesses assume a statistically demonstrated very high risk of armed theft due to their cash business. The entrances at 1080 Lorimer, where families enter and exit their homes, will be the most vulnerable point of access to the product and cash this business deals in. Children will be sleeping less than 100 feet from armed guards in their building, guards that - should a break-in occur - will be tasked with protecting marijuana and money, not the lives of families that would be caught in any crossfire. In the community, the door to 807 Manhattan at 1080 Lorimer are also less than 100ft from the access and playgrounds of PS. 31.</p> <p>We also know the embattled Mayor Adams is aware of this building. His recent visit for undisclosed purposes to the Greenpoint Savings Bank in September was documented</p>



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				<p>by residents. At that point in the timeline, there is no way he did not know of this forthcoming proposal. Local officials', such as Lincoln Restler's, instant declaration of support for a Cannabis Shop and Club at this location is suggestive. In the current political climate of NYC, it is easy to imagine the worst.</p> <p>The lack of transparency and rush to approve Altitude NY LLC at 807 Manhattan is so heavy with suspicious activity that it is almost humorous...</p> <p>How are local official's response to the concerns about a Cannabis Shop, Lounge, and Club at the Historic Greenpoint Bank like a Turkish Consulate Fire Drill? There IS NO ALARM!</p> <p>Unfortunately, endangering constituents to pedal pot at a catchy location is not a joke.</p> <p>I will also be emailing both the OCM info and regulations addresses with this letter and a bullet list of concerns; unfortunately, the more we research the more troubling Altitude NY LLC's application becomes. We implore you to deny their licensure for a cannabis business of any sort at this location. Though I am a supporter of legal cannabis, the distribution and potential use at 807 Manhattan Ave will have an overwhelmingly negative impact on the community. The risks are too many and too great.</p> <p>Sincerely, Mark Stuver 1080 Lorimer Street Brooklyn, NY 11222</p>
36.	Mark	Stuver		<p>List of reasons to deny Altitude NY LLC's License to open a storefront at 807 Manhattan Ave: Lack of Transparency in application:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Altitude NY LLC (the applicant) has failed to disclose that, in addition to being a cannabis retail location, its primary use will be as a smoking club, where indoor cannabis smoking will take place along with events and music. Please see the business website (https://altitudeclubnyc.com/), located at 1302 Myrtle Avenue and social media (Instagram: @altitudeclubnyc). Altitude NYC has already opened "Xhale Lounge" (see https://thexhalelounge.com/) where events are held and cannabis is consumed indoors. Clearly the intention behind renting a massive 11,200 sq foot space is to use this as a party venue/club where products purchased can be smoked and consumed, which is a violation of zoning use group 6.



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				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The average square footage for a cannabis retail shop in the Greenpoint neighborhood is currently 1,610 sq ft, a considerably smaller footprint than the proposed location. • Altitude Club NYC/Xhale Lounge appear to currently operate an illegal business at 1302 Myrtle Avenue. <p>Violation of Bylaws of 1080 Lorimer/807 Manhattan Avenue and NYS Attorney General Offering Plan: 807 Manhattan is a commercial unit within and attached to a condominium complex, 1080 Lorimer Street, therefore all secondhand smoke will negatively impact and potentially harm the adults and children/infants that reside in that condominium. The Board of 1080 Lorimer was not consulted about this lease and there are a number of prohibited uses per the 1080 Lorimer NYS Attorney General Offering Plan, which includes use as a 'head shop' and any venue that creates loud music or noisy events. Additionally, 1080 Lorimer is a non-smoking building, which includes the smoking of marijuana. Therefore, this proposed business would be in direct violation of these policies and allowed uses. Lastly, there are several residential units that are in the bank building itself and would be at the highest level of risk.</p> <p>Saturation of Cannabis stores in Williamsburg/Greenpoint: Currently, there are at least 20 active cannabis dispensaries and 7 pending applications within a one-mile radius of the proposed site. Empire Cannabis Club at 833 Manhattan Avenue is only 232 feet from this proposed club. Another cannabis dispensary was approved for 922 Manhattan Avenue, under 1000 feet from this application. This concentration raises concerns about public safety, traffic, fire hazards, and the overall character of our neighborhood. Additionally, having multiple dispensaries so close together can create an oversaturation that detracts from the diverse retail options that our community needs and deserves.</p> <p>Fire and Safety Hazards: A cannabis dispensary and club of this size poses a significant fire and safety hazard to a landmarked historic building and given that 807 Manhattan Ave is connected to 1080 Lorimer Street, a residential building, this poses a direct threat to the homes of 29 families that reside in that building. There is an open access corridor between the commercial space and the residential space, which creates potential safety breaches.</p> <p>Nearby Schools, Youth, and Places of Worship:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PS 31 is only 449 feet away – (1080 Lorimer and 807 Manhattan are connected buildings with an entrance at 1080 Lorimer)



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	First Name	Last Name	Organization (If Applicable)	Public Comment
				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A new preschool, Kuei Luck Early Childhood Center, at 171 Calyer is only 220 feet away • Greenpoint YMCA at 99 Meserole Avenue is a public youth facility within 500 feet (1080 Lorimer and 807 Manhattan are connected buildings with an entrance at 1080 Lorimer) • St. Anthony Catholic Church at 862 Manhattan Avenue is 229 ft away <p>Lack of community engagement: Altitude NY LLC posted a tiny sign about this permit a few days ago, did not alert our building about their intentions, and have not engaged the community in any way. With so little information, we've had to do our own work to try and understand the proposal.</p>
37.	Elaina	B		<p>My name is Elaina Bell. I am writing to formally express my opposition to the application for the proposed cannabis dispensary and smoking lounge at 807 Manhattan Avenue (Greenpoint Savings Bank – a landmarked historical property). While I acknowledge the evolving landscape of cannabis legislation and its potential benefits, I believe that this historic location is not suitable for such a business, given the existing density of cannabis dispensaries in our community and most importantly, that this business has not fully disclosed all intended uses in their permit application with Community Board 1. Perhaps most importantly, I am a resident of 807 Manhattan with direct, CONNECTED exposure to the bank & roof access. I am considerably worried this would pose as a danger / security risk for me and my property.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lack of Transparency in application: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Altitude NYC (the applicant) has failed to disclose that, in addition to being a cannabis retail location, its primary use will be as a smoking club, where indoor cannabis smoking will take place along with events and music. Please see the business website (https://altitudeclubnyc.com/), located at 1302 Myrtle Avenue and social media (Instagram: @altitudeclubnyc). Altitude NYC has already opened “Xhale Lounge” (see https://thexhalelounge.com/) where events are held and cannabis is consumed indoors. Clearly the intention behind renting a massive 11,200 sq foot space is to use this as a party venue (i.e. club) where products purchased can be smoked and consumed. o The average square footage for a cannabis retail shop in the Greenpoint neighborhood is currently 1,610 sq ft, a considerably smaller footprint than the proposed location and the intention can only be to use this as a party



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				<p>venue/club. This use is a violation of the zoning use group 6.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Violation of Bylaws of 1080 Lorimer/807 Manhattan Avenue and NYS Attorney General Offering Plan: 807 Manhattan is a commercial unit within and attached to a condominium complex, 1080 Lorimer Street, therefore all secondhand smoke will negatively impact and potentially harm the adults and children/infants that reside in that condominium. The Board of 1080 Lorimer was not consulted about this lease and there are a number of prohibited uses per the 1080 Lorimer NYS Attorney General Offering Plan, which includes use as a 'head shop' and any venue that creates loud music or noisy events. Additionally, 1080 Lorimer is a non-smoking building, which includes the smoking of marijuana. Therefore, this proposed business would be in direct violation of these policies and allowed uses. Lastly, there are several residential units that are in the bank building itself and would be at the highest level of risk • Saturation of Cannabis stores in Williamsburg/Greenpoint: Currently, there are at least 20 active cannabis dispensaries and 7 pending applications within a one-mile radius of the proposed site. Having multiple dispensaries so close together can create an over saturation that detracts from the diverse retail options that our community needs and deserves. • Fire and Safety Hazards: A cannabis dispensary and club of this size poses a significant fire and safety hazard to a landmarked historic building and given that 807 Manhattan Ave is connected to 1080 Lorimer Street, a residential building, this poses a direct threat to the homes of 29 families that reside in that building. There is an open access corridor between the commercial space and the residential space, which creates potential safety breaches. Personally, my unit has outside exposure to the bank via a 3rd floor balcony and I'm worried that puts me in a potential position of danger for robberies, etc. • Nearby Schools, Youth, and Places of Worship: PS 31 is only 449 feet away, Kuei Luck Early Childhood Center is 221ft away, St. Anthony Catholic Church is 229ft away I urge the Community Board to DENY the permitting for the Altitude dispensary and club at 807 Manhattan Avenue. Thank you.
38.	Sarah	Slaoui		<p>We are writing to inform you of our opposition to the Altitude NY LLC cannabis license application for the proposed cannabis storefront at 807 Manhattan Avenue, the Greenpoint Savings Bank – a landmark historical</p>



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				<p>property.</p> <p>We have multiple concerns we wanted to share:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Violation of the rule to be >500 feet from schools 807 Manhattan Avenue has a door opening at 1080 Lorimer street - it is thus less than 100 feet away from one of the entrance of P.S. 31 - which I believe is illegal. Beyond P.S.31 (>450 students from K to 5th grade), it is worth flagging that a new preschool, Kuei Luck Early Childhood Center, is planning to open at 171 Calyer street, which is only 220 feet away from 807 Manhattan Avenue (+ there is also an entrance of 807 Manhattan avenue on Calyer street so same street again and less than 100 feet). 2. Violation of Bylaws of 807 Manhattan Avenue and NYS Attorney General Offering Plan 807 Manhattan is a commercial unit within and attached to a condominium complex, 807 Manhattan Avenue Condominium, therefore all secondhand smoke will negatively impact and potentially harm the adults and children/infants that reside in that condominium. The Board owas not consulted about this lease and there are several prohibited uses per the NYS Attorney General Offering Plan, which includes use as a 'head shop' and any venue that creates loud music or noisy events. 3. Size of the location vs. intended use 807 Manhattan Avenue is a 11,200 sqf building spread through 2 levels (8,720 sqf ground floor and 2,500 sqf lower level. The size of the location seems inappropriate for the intended use. If they keep it to a dispensary only, this means a super store. We do not believe is what our community needs right now at this location. It would become an attraction and create significant traffic in an already congested area of Greenpoint, with people double parking and constant honking 4. Lack of community engagement Altitude NY LLC posted a tiny sign about this permit a few days ago, did not alert our shared building about their intentions, and have not engaged the community in any way. Based on the foregoing, we would respectfully request that you deny your support for the Altitude NY LLC cannabis license for dispensary.
39.	Shamar	Williams		<p>I am # 1342 on the wait list to get my license, as a 100% service connected disabled veteran and "See applicant" is there anything I can do to expedite the process? If not how long should I expect to wait to receive my license?</p>



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40.	Brooklyn	Reid	807 Manhattan Ave/1080 Lorimer Resident	<p>We are residents of Greenpoint and our family lives in the residential section of 807 Manhattan Ave, the Historic Greenpoint Savings Bank. We have chosen to purchase a home in Greenpoint and raise our two twin daughters in this neighborhood and care deeply about the neighborhood and its future. There are 29 families that live in the residential section of 807 Manhattan Ave, including 17 children under the age of 5. The safety of our family and community is at risk with the potential opening of a cannabis dispensary in the space. We strongly believe this will compromise the neighborhood and only increase crime more on these blocks. If you visit this block, you will see children being dropped off at their school (PS31), playing on the playground and soon attending a daycare opening at 171 Calyer – this proposed dispensary and its clientele does not belong within feet of all of these children and families and does not bring value to the specific block and it's community.</p> <p>As members of the community, we are writing to formally express our opposition to the Altitude NY LLC cannabis license application for the proposed cannabis dispensary and smoking lounge at 807 Manhattan Avenue, the Greenpoint Savings Bank – a landmark historical property. The residential section of 807 Manhattan Ave (1080 Lorimer St) is a non-smoking and residential building and houses many families. 807 Manhattan, the landmark Greenpoint Savings Bank, is the commercial component of the same lot number. The Offering Plan that every resident purchased their home under expressly prohibited this sort of business. To be clear, this is not a “party-wall” situation; residents’ units and our building gym are IN the bank. When the banks roof leaks, it floods our units and ground floor, and there is a required egress between residential and commercial sections for roof access and emergencies. The doors connecting our two buildings raises a huge security risk for theft and break-ins to a dispensary. I assume the dispensary would have security at their door, but what about the other three entrances to the bank, all which the families and children use? We would be left unprotected and vulnerable. Children who live in this building play in the common space within feet to the shared door inside. We are the same building. While we acknowledge the evolving landscape of cannabis legislation and its potential benefits, we believe that this historic location is not suitable for such a business, given the existing density of cannabis dispensaries in our community. Most importantly, this</p>



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				<p>business has not fully disclosed all intended uses in their application to Community Board 1 and that this application does not conform with the zoning restrictions for dispensaries and this building.</p> <p>We are asking the Community Board to deny the cannabis permit for the Altitude NY LLC cannabis license for dispensary and club at 807 Manhattan Avenue and to prioritize locations that are more appropriate for such establishments.</p> <p>Thank you for considering our concerns.</p> <p>Sincerely, Brooklyn and Darrell Reid 815-218-1634</p>
41.	Kevin	Kung	Kuei Luck Early Childhood Center	<p>Good Afternoon,</p> <p>I hope this message finds you well. I am writing to express our strong opposition to the planned cannabis dispensary at 807 Manhattan Ave. As you may be aware, our preschool is currently under construction directly across the street at 171 Cayler Street, and it has already been approved by the Department of Buildings (DOB) and is in the pre-permitting process with the NYC Department of Health and Mental Hygiene (DOHMH).</p> <p>According to New York State law, cannabis dispensaries cannot operate within 500 feet of school grounds or community facilities. Given the proximity of our preschool, we believe that allowing this license to proceed would be a violation of these regulations.</p> <p>Additionally, the area is home to several other educational institutions, including PS 031, which is located just two blocks away, further making this an inappropriate location for a dispensary.</p> <p>We respectfully request that this license be denied in accordance with the law, as it poses a risk to the well-being of the children in our community and the educational institutions that serve them.</p> <p>Thank you for your attention to this important matter. We look forward to hearing your response.</p> <p>Sincerely, Kevin Kung</p>
42.	Elaina	B		<p>Hello, my name is Elaina B, and I am a resident of 807 Manhattan Ave/1080 Lorimer St. I am writing to express my opposition to the Altitude NY LLC cannabis license application for the proposed cannabis storefront at 807 Manhattan Avenue, the Greenpoint Savings Bank – a landmark historical property.</p> <p>Multiple concerns of note:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Violation of Section 409(2) of the New York State



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				<p>Education Law</p> <p>807 Manhattan Avenue is a mixed-use building with an entry/exit on 1080 Lorimer Street, which is less than 200 feet away from one of the entrances of P.S. 31. Additionally, the B62 / B43 bus stop in front of 807 Manhattan Avenue is heavily used by P.S.31 families to get to the school which will require students to walk past the proposed dispensary going to and coming from school. The proposed location therefore does not conform to the public policy intent of the law which is to keep students safe from such establishments.</p> <p>Beyond P.S.31 (>450 students from K to 5th grade), it is worth flagging that a new preschool, Kuei Luck Early Childhood Center, is planning to open at 171 Calyer street, which is only 220 feet away from 807 Manhattan Avenue and less than 100 feet away from the side entrance of 807 Manhattan Avenue.</p> <p>2. Violation of Bylaws of 1080 Lorimer/807 Manhattan Avenue and NYS Attorney General Offering Plan</p> <p>807 Manhattan is a commercial unit within and attached to a condominium complex, 807 Manhattan Avenue Condominium, therefore all secondhand smoke will negatively impact and potentially harm the adults and children/infants that reside in that condominium (around 15 kids under 5 in that building). The Board of 807 Manhattan Avenue Condominium was not consulted about this lease and there are several prohibited uses per the 807 Manhattan Avenue Condominium NYS Attorney General Offering Plan, which includes use as a 'head shop' and any venue that creates loud music or noisy events.</p> <p>In this context, we are worried about the signaling the tenant is sending by asking to open a cannabis storefront at this location. If they ignore official rules for the use of this building, we are concerned that they will ignore further rules as well and might use the space for more than a dispensary.</p> <p>3. Size of the location vs. intended use</p> <p>The commercial space of 807 Manhattan Avenue is a 11,200 sqf building spread through 2 levels (8,720 sqf ground floor and 2,500 sqf lower level). The size of the location seems inappropriate for the intended use. If they keep it to a dispensary only, this means a super store. We do not believe is what our community needs right now at this location. There are already many alternative options in the neighborhood. Besides, given the size and the choice of the building (beautiful landmark</p>



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				<p>building), we are worried that the intended use ends up being more than a simple cannabis storefront and that this ends up being a lounge / event space / club. This would be a violation of zoning use group 6.</p> <p>4. Lack of community engagement Altitude NY LLC posted a tiny sign about this permit less than a week before the Community Board meeting, did not alert our shared building about their intentions, and have not engaged the community in any way.</p> <p>5. Security concerns Given most cannabis dispensaries are “cash-heavy” operations, they have historically been prime targets for armed robbery. Given the magnitude of the operation we are talking about (one of biggest dispensaries in the state of NY), this creates significant security concerns for the entire community. This concern is heightened by the proximity of schools as well as by the multiple side / alternative “residential” entries to the building. Based on the forgoing, we ask you to deny Altitude LLC Dispensary a cannabis license. Thank you.</p>
43.	Hsintzu	Li		<p>The last thing this neighborhood need is another cannabis dispensary. Opening up a mega size dispensary at 807 Manhattan Ave means increasing the exposure of cannabis and the risk of robbery to the children in the community with ps31 and a couple daycares being so close by. Please deny Altitude NY LLC cannabis license permit application.</p>
44.	Kristin	Esposito		<p>Kristin Esposito 1080 Lorimer St – apt 1F Brooklyn NY 11222 October 9th, 2024 Subject: Opposition to Altitude NY LLC Cannabis License To whom it may concern, We are writing to inform you of our opposition to the Altitude NY LLC cannabis license application for the proposed cannabis storefront at 807 Manhattan Avenue, the Greenpoint Savings Bank – a landmark historical property. We have multiple concerns we wanted to share:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Violation of Section 409(2) of the New York State Education Law 807 Manhattan Avenue is a mixed-use building with an entry/exit on 1080 Lorimer Street, which is less than 200 feet away from one of the entry of P.S. 31 Additionally, the B62 / B43 bus stop in front of 807 Manhattan Avenue is heavily used by P.S.31 families to get to the school which



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				<p>will require students to walk past the proposed dispensary going to and coming from school. The proposed location therefore does not conform to the public policy intent of the law which is to keep students safe from such establishments.</p> <p>Beyond P.S.31 (>450 students from K to 5th grade), it is worth flagging that a new preschool, Kuei Luck Early Childhood Center, is planning to open at 171 Calyer street, which is only 220 feet away from 807 Manhattan Avenue and less than 100 feet away from the side entrance of 807 Manhattan Avenue. This location would significantly increase minors' exposure to cannabis, despite existing regulations and age restrictions.</p> <p>2. Violation of Bylaws of 1080 Lorimer/807 Manhattan Avenue and NYS Attorney General Offering Plan 807 Manhattan is a commercial unit within and attached to a condominium complex, 807 Manhattan Avenue Condominium, therefore all secondhand smoke will negatively impact and potentially harm the adults and children/infants that reside in that condominium (around 15 kids under 5 in that building). The Board of 807 Manhattan Avenue Condominium was not consulted about this lease and there are several prohibited uses per the 807 Manhattan Avenue Condominium NYS Attorney General Offering Plan, which includes use as a 'head shop' and any venue that creates loud music or noisy events. In this context, we are worried about the signaling the tenant is sending by asking to open a cannabis storefront at this location. If they ignore official rules for the use of this building, we are concerned that they will ignore further rules as well and might use the space for more than a dispensary.</p> <p>3. Size of the location vs. intended use The commercial space of 807 Manhattan Avenue is roughly 7,200 sqf building spread through 2 levels (8,720 sqf ground floor and 2,500 sqf lower level). The size of the location seems inappropriate for the intended use. If they keep it to a dispensary only, this means a super store. We do not believe is what our community needs right now at this location: - There are already many alternative options in the neighborhood. Besides, given the size and the choice of the building</p>



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	First Name	Last Name	Organization (If Applicable)	Public Comment
				<p>(beautiful landmark building), we are worried that the intended use ends up being more than a simple cannabis storefront and that this ends up being a lounge / even space / club. This would be a violation of zoning use group 6.</p> <p>4. Security concerns Given most cannabis dispensary are “cash-heavy” operations, they have historically been prime targets for armed robbery. Given the magnitude of the operation we are talking about (one of biggest dispensary in the state of NY), this creates significant security concerns for the entire community. This concern is heightened by the proximity of schools as well as by the multiple side / alternative “residential” entries to the building (by P.S. 31) which might not be properly guarded but will create the “weak” link in the security chain / highest security risk (with school children so close!) Based on the foregoing, we would respectfully request that you deny your support for the Altitude NY LLC cannabis license for dispensary. Sincerely, Kristin Esposito 631-379-9230 / kristinesposito@mac.com</p>
45.	sean	maguire	proxtracts processing inc	<p>We are from ProXtracts Processing # 85 in December queue for (T1) processing. We are "in process" with the state, and completed all our TPI requirements. We supplied 1 correction email on our extraction methods ? We really thought we would be on this list today ? What is holding us back ? I have emailed Kallyn Alexander we get no responses. Please tell us what else is needed to obtain the proper licensure and get operational, and avoid another month of rent w/o operating. We are ready to help the industry grow immediately. Thanks for reading this</p>
46.	Saladin	Amir		<p>After looking at the job description for the chief Equity officer, I couldn't help but notice that this job seem more like a HR job for internal management of state workers. not one who is charged with the duties of economic social equity for ownership of see applicants. Does this mean that OCM is no longer committed to the restoration for wrong that has been done by The war on drugs to communities disproportionately impacted to have ownership. Reducing CDI's participation in the cannabis industry To the workforce using the DEI (A) lens. And recipients of tax funds distributed by municipalities and nonprofits. It seems as if this is the case, based upon your statistics and percentage of CDI. The percentage for CDI has not changed or risen above 6% of the total see licenses Category.</p>



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47.	Denise	Kelly Castner BCHHP	Cannabis Health Inc.	I am a Holistic Health Practitioner using cannabis as medical treatment and the rise of recreational cannabis has made medical cannabis almost extinct for medical patients. Dispensaries no longer have any capsules or concentrations that I can use, without sugar or processed ingredients. It's actually put me right out of business. Why doesn't anyone care about the medical patients any longer?
48.	Thomas	Ballistrea	Cannabaceae LLC	<p>My name is Thomas Ballistrea Jr., I'm the founder and CEO of Cannabaceae LLC, a graduate of the CCTM program, I'm also proud to be a microbusiness licensee and grateful to have the privilege of being a part of the solution. Thank you for all that each of you do for our community and for allowing me the opportunity to; participate in the process, as well as present some challenges that our community is facing.</p> <p>As The board continues to award licenses to individuals to operate in the adult use Cannabis industry in New York and as we are all well aware, traditional sources of revenue are not available for Cannabis related businesses, I would humbly ask the board, the Office and the CAB to please consider instituting programs that provide capital by way of revolving loans, grants, and tax incentives directly to licensees to increase accessibility for all individuals in the Adult Use Cannabis market in New York state.</p> <p>These programs should echo the statutory goals set in the MRTA for equity by setting goals to award 50% of the revolving loans, grants, and tax incentives to SEE licensees as defined in SB 854-a §3 (50) and take into account the economic status of all licensees when setting the terms of the assistance programs, including but not limited to, the interest rates and/or repayment methods for loans.</p> <p>These assistance programs and incentives should provide working capital and resources that can be used to establish infrastructure in a manner that is compliant and ensures that the development of these businesses has a minimal negative impact on our environment while establishing a safe working environment for individuals.</p> <p>Assistance for all Cannabis related businesses must be offered by New York state to allow small business and economically challenged individuals to proliferate in a well-regulated industry such as those that have been instituted in other Cannabis markets for example; Colorado established the Cannabis Resource Optimization Program and California established; the Qualified Cultivator funding</p>



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				<p>opportunity, the Cleanup, remediation and watershed Enhancement program; and the Cannabis research and innovation funding opportunity, to name just a few.</p> <p>The time to enact these incentive programs is now, individuals are being subject to predatory practices due to the lack of adequate funding for Cannabis businesses and/or are unable to operate due to the financial barriers to entry that a well-regulated industry presents.</p> <p>Also, echoing Assemblymember Crystal D. Peoples-Stokes comments and reiterating my prior comments, please consider amending Article 4 section 120.3 paragraph (c) subdivision 1 to include a combination option for indoor and outdoor cultivation as well as increasing the canopy size limits to allow microbusinesses to compete in the adult use Cannabis market.</p> <p>Additionally, please consider amending Article 4 section 123.12 paragraph (a) subdivisions 7&8 as well as all corresponding references to allow Microbusinesses to sell Cannabis products other than their own cannabis products and perhaps limit those sales to other microbusinesses products to elevate the craft industry in New York State.</p> <p>The current regulations limit the ability of microbusiness licensees to be successful and in some cases make the structure of the microbusiness not economically viable given the ability of established licensees to produce Cannabis grown in a controlled environment and at a large scale as well as the ability for retail licensees to carry multiple SKUs from multiple licensees.</p> <p>Lastly, I would like to extend my gratitude to everyone that labors to create a post prohibition reality for our community. I look forward to continuing to write the next chapter of post Cannabis prohibition history together with you all.</p>